



NRCS



ARS

Joint Meeting
Grazinglands Research Lab
El Reno, Oklahoma
December 12, 2002

Executive Summary

Issue

Since reorganization, the South Central Region-NRCS, has not formally met with any organizational level of ARS. In order to build on the working relationships between ARS and individual states, Humberto Hernandez, Regional Conservationist of NRCS – South Central Region, and Dr. Charles Onstad, Director of ARS - Southern Plains Area, initiated a meeting.

Discussion

The discussion on the meeting centered in four main areas.

- 1) Agency information and organizational structure
- 2) Technology structure within each agency
- 3) Current resource concerns/technology needs, for NRCS, and current technology/data availability for the ARS
- 4) Future collaborative opportunities and specific actions

The meeting provided good information and discussion. Both agencies learned more about each other, how they operate and how technology is dealt with internally and externally. NRCS provided a listing of state resource concerns and specifically discussed their top two. ARS was given an opportunity to respond to these concerns by communicating what research was being conducted, and/or what data was available that dealt specifically with these concerns.

The resource concerns and research being conducted and discussed served as a basis for the final recommendations that were identified.

Recommendations



The resulting recommendations will serve as a springboard for more detailed discussions and future plan development:

- Establish an ARS liaison to the South Central Regional Technology Workgroup
- A RTWG meeting in February of 2003 to identify SCR high priority resource concerns
- A RTWG discussion about PMT function, challenges, solutions
- Joint teams formed to address high priority resource concerns
- Joint effort to explore how to capture and transfer current ARS technology
- Partner in training opportunities
- Joint effort in projecting resource concerns for the future

Special Thanks to those who helped build the bridge for the event.

Humberto Hernandez
Rafael Guerrero
Javier Ruiz

Dr. Charles Onstad
Dr. Herman Mayeau
Jean Steiner